

PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE RALEIGH NC
0800 AM EDT THU JUN 26 2014

The National Weather Service has declared the week of June 22nd through 28th, LIGHTNING SAFETY AWARENESS WEEK. This is the fourth in a series of five public information statements to be issued by the National Weather Service office in Raleigh, NC containing information on lightning and lightning safety.

THURSDAY - LIGHTNING SAFETY AT WORK

For those who work outside during the summer, lightning is a potentially deadly threat. While summer is a good time to complete outside work, it is very important to work in a safe environment. Any time a thunderstorm is in the area, no place outside is safe. Between 2006 and 2013, 38 people were struck and killed by lightning in the United States while at work. About two-thirds of those killed were farmers, ranchers, roofers, lawn care workers, or construction workers. Many of those killed were seeking shelter at the time of the deadly strike, but just hadn't started soon enough.

Many work activities require extra time to shut down. In these cases, it is important to monitor weather conditions so that the work activities can end and workers can get to a safe place before the lightning threat arrives. Similar to all outdoor activities, workers need to stop what they are doing immediately and get to a safe place if they hear thunder. When thunder roars, go indoors!

Lightning question of the day: What do I do if someone is struck by lightning?

Lightning victims do not carry an electrical charge, are safe to touch, and may need immediate medical attention. Cardiac arrest is the immediate cause of death for those who die. Some deaths can be prevented with proper first aid. Call 911 and then give first aid. CPR and use of an AED (Automatic External Defibrillator) may be needed.

Here's a list of topics for other days this week.

MONDAY - Lightning and Lightning Safety - an Introduction
TUESDAY - Lightning's Most Deadly Activities
WEDNESDAY - Lightning Safety and Sports Activities
FRIDAY - Lightning Safety Around the Home

For additional information about lightning or lightning safety, visit NOAA's Lightning Safety Awareness web site at:

<http://www.lightningsafety.noaa.gov>

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